## **FACT SHEET**

## AB 24 (Assembly Member Block): California State University Feasibility Study

**Summary:** Assembly Bill 24 will require the Trustees of the California State University (CSU), by January 1, 2011, to conduct a feasibility study for a San Diego State University satellite program, and ultimately an independent CSU campus in the City of Chula Vista (CV.) The study will be paid for with private funding.

**Problem:** In November 2008, the CSU Chancellor received approval to designate the entire university system as impacted, which is expected to result in fewer students admitted for next fall. The CSU is already serving 10,000 students for whom the state provides no funding. This is the first time that the nation's largest four-year university system has officially endorsed a state-wide concept of limiting admission to eligible students, ending a 48-year track record.

At a time when California needs to expand its workforce, train for new technologies, and give all of the rising college students opportunities to succeed, this impaction policy will compromise the quality of education and deny access to higher education.

<u>Solution:</u> AB 24 would be the first step in developing a San Diego State University satellite program and ultimately the 24<sup>th</sup> campus of the CSU system. CV has identified an area of land in their General Plan for use as a future educational complex.

This location is one of the few developable vacant large areas of land left in the highly populated region. A future campus sited at this location would significantly alleviate the overcrowding, high traffic congestion, and pollution at other regional campuses. It will create construction jobs and small business opportunities and allow more people access to higher education.

## **Background:**

The City of Chula Vista has long sought to build a campus in the proposed area. Although surrounded by more than 11,000 acres of a biological preserve, the future campus site is in compliance with the San Diego Multiple-Species Conservation Plan. In 1997, the CV general plan for a university project was approved. This included a certified Environmental Impact Report that evaluated the impacts within the Otay Ranch master planned community

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